



News Release from Congressman

ROB SIMMONS

SECOND DISTRICT, CONNECTICUT

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SIMMONS DELIVERS \$800K FOR QUINEBAUG-SHETUCKET HERITAGE CORRIDOR



WASHINGTON, DC – Rep. Rob Simmons, R-2nd District, today announced he has secured \$800,000 for the Quinebaug and Shetucket Rivers Valley National Heritage Corridor (QSHC). The funding is part of the fiscal year 2007 U.S. Department of Interior spending bill to be considered by Congress next week.

“It is imperative that the Quinebaug-Shetucket Rivers Valley National Heritage Corridor be given the resources to continue to conserve, celebrate and enhance the significant historical, cultural, natural and scenic resources in the region while at the same time promoting a quality of life based on a healthy economy compatible with the region’s character,” Simmons said. “This funding will help QSHC continue to accomplish these important goals.”

The Quinebaug and Shetucket Rivers Valley National Heritage Corridor encompasses about 695,000 acres in northeastern Connecticut and south-central Massachusetts. It is often called the “Last Green Valley” in the Boston to Washington, D.C. corridor. The QSHC will use these federal funds to develop and implement integrated cultural, historical, and recreational land resource management programs. Since coming to Congress, Simmons has helped secure nearly \$6 million for the program.

Simmons has also joined Sens. Dodd and Lieberman in introducing legislation to preserve and enhance this significant natural, historic, cultural and scenic resource. The bicameral, bipartisan bill would increase funding for the Corridor to \$20 million through 2027. “The Dodd-Lieberman-Simmons legislation will help ensure that the ‘Last Green Valley’ is in good hands and will remain a national treasure for generations to come,” Simmons said.

Charlene Cutler, executive director of the QSHC, welcomed the funding news. “The work we are doing in The Last Green Valley is considered critical by our communities, residents and other partners. Continued funding will contribute to both the preservation of resources, as well as increased economic development. It is a good value for the federal investment.”

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